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Community *notes*

Greeting

This is a great time of year! Enjoy the many opportunities to celebrate with family and friends this weekend and in the upcoming week.

MayKay

News from the Howard County Arts Council

ADULT ART CLASS THIS WEEKEND!

PROJECT: HOLIDAY

December 13, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Instructor Suzanne Herbert-Forton will guide you through a D.I.Y. project to create ornaments, decorations, or accessories out of felt and shiny embellishments. Bring your imagination and festive spirit! Only \$20 for members plus a \$5 supply fee. To register, visit the [Adult Classes](#) page.

Project: Holiday is the first in a new series of short, D.I.Y.-style workshops to be offered throughout the year! Keep your eye on ArtBuzz and social media for announcements.

THIS MONTH IN THE BLACK BOX THEATRE

December 13, 7:30 p.m.

The Nutcracker, presented by the Columbia Chamber Ballet
An abbreviated performance of the holiday dance favorite, enjoyable for all ages. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased online at www.cindeevelleballet.com.

WINTER CLASSES AT HCCA

Classes begin January 20

Sign up for a class at the Center for Arts and chase the winter 'blahs' away! Classes begin January 20 for children and adults. Offerings include Saturday Art Studio, Playwriting, Bucket Band, and more. Drop-in portrait and model sessions are also available. For more information or to register visit the [Classes and Camps](#) page or call 410-313-ARTS (2787).

Wonders of the Night Sky

Come watch the Geminid meteor shower on Saturday, December 13, 10:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m., with astronomers Dr. Joel Goodman and Dr. Alex Storrs at the Howard County Conservancy (10520 Old Frederick Road, Woodstock). Dress warmly, bring lawn chairs or blankets, and sip hot cider in the meadow while you learn more about meteor showers. This free event gives attendees a chance to see the wonders of our night sky. Visit the [website](#) for registration and event details.

Kids' Camp for Parents' Day Out

Do you need a break today (well, on Saturday)? Drop the kids off on Saturday, December 13 at Robinson Nature Center's Happy Holi-Day Camp/ Parents' Day Out from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Robinson Nature Center is located less than four miles



from The Mall in Columbia for parents wanted to find a way to get holiday shopping done while kids enjoy holiday craft making, games and nature presentations. The staff provide a snack and help children wrap their creations.

Add an optional supervised lunchtime and movie is being offered for extended fun. For supervised lunchtime & movie, make sure to pack a lunch for each child (no nut products). Supervised lunchtime & movie from Noon-1:00 p.m. \$30 per session. \$5 for supervised lunchtime and movie. Call 410-313-0400 to register.

Public Notice Hearing on Local Bill Legislation

The Howard County Delegation of the Maryland General Assembly, chaired by Delegate Frank Turner and Senator James Robey, will hold a public hearing for citizen input on local bills being considered by the legislature during the upcoming legislative session on Thursday, December 18, 7:30 p.m. in the Banneker Room, George Howard Building, 3430 Courthouse Drive, Ellicott City. Sign-up sheets will be available outside of the Banneker room at 7:00 p.m. on the evening of the hearing. Oral testimony will be limited to three minutes. Please provide a copy of written testimony for each member of the delegation and the staff (12 copies).

For further information, contact Dan Furman at the Delegation office at 410-841-3360 or hoc1@mlis.state.md.us.

The General Assembly will begin its 2015 session on Wednesday, January 14.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County – Environmental Education Center Renovation and Expansion

By: **Howard County Senators**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Howard County Conservancy, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County – Harriet Tubman Center

By: **Delegate F. Turner**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$500,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County – Community Action Council Food Bank Facility

By: **Delegate Guzzone**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$500,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Community Action Council of Howard County, Maryland, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Howard County – Alcoholic Beverages – Special Event – Education Permits

By: **Delegate W. Miller**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Howard County Board of License Commissioners to issue a special event – education beer and wine tasting alcoholic beverages permit and a special event – education beer, wine, and liquor tasting alcoholic beverages permit; specifying that a special event – education alcoholic beverages permit authorized under this Act may be issued to a holder of a certain alcoholic beverages license; specifying that a holder of a special event – education alcoholic beverages permit authorized under this Act may provide from the holder's inventory certain alcoholic beverages to a consumer who has preregistered for a certain event, subject to certain limitations; specifying a permit fee; authorizing the Board to adopt certain regulations; defining a certain term; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Howard County.

Howard County – Appointed Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board – Compensation

By: **Delegate Guzzone**

FOR the purpose of providing that the compensation for the Howard County Appointed Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board shall be the amount set by the Howard County Council; and generally relating to the compensation for the Howard County Appointed Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board.

Howard County – Casino Events – Authorized

By: **Delegate W. Miller**

FOR the purpose of authorizing certain organizations to hold certain casino events in Howard County at certain intervals of time; requiring an organization to obtain a permit from the Howard County Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits before operating a casino event; requiring the Howard County Executive to forward a recommendation to the Howard County Council concerning the fee to be charged for a permit; requiring the County Council to adopt by resolution the amount of the permit fee; specifying the types of organizations eligible to conduct a casino event; requiring a permit holder for a casino event to ensure that certain standards are met; prohibiting a permit holder from offering cumulative prizes in excess of a certain amount; specifying certain prohibited acts and reporting requirements for a permit holder for a casino event; requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations governing casino events; altering in Howard County the application of certain general provisions of law governing gaming in the State; establishing certain exceptions to prohibitions against conducting a casino event or operating or awarding prizes using certain gaming devices; defining a certain term; and generally relating to casino events in Howard County.

Howard County – Insurance – Certificates of Guarantee for County Bond Requirements

By: **Delegate Guzzone**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Howard County to honor certificates of guarantee that are issued by certain associations or their wholly owned subsidiaries on behalf of certain contractors for the purpose of satisfying certain county bond requirements; providing that Howard County is not required under certain provisions of law to honor certain certificates of guarantee; altering a certain definition; and generally relating to Howard County and certificates of guarantee.

County Executive's Citizens' Budget Hearing

County Executive Allan Kittleman will hold his first Citizens' Budget Hearing for the FY2016 budget cycle on Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City.

Residents can sign-up [online](#) to speak at the hearing. From the same link, residents will also have the option to provide online budget testimony; however, residents are reminded that internet testimony is considered public information and, as such, is subject to the Maryland Public Information Act.

Residents who do not wish to sign-up on line will still be able to sign-up in person on the night of the public hearing beginning at 6:00 p.m. Speakers must sign up individually, and one person may not sign up for several testifiers.

Maryland Science Center presents The 12 Days of Science

The holiday season will be a wonderland of curiosity during the **12 Days of Science**. Beginning December 20 and continuing right up to the annual Midnight Noon Celebration, each day will showcase a different theme throughout the Center and feature activities in the Kids Room and The Shed.

The 12 day event kicks off with Tinker, Hack and Make—a day to take apart and reassemble old toys, build pool noodle rockets and launch them, do woodworking in The Shed—and lots more. Among other themed days are Jingle Bell Rock—a day to explore music including making your own instruments (pipers piping and drummers drumming?) and Kitchen Chemistry where everything is dedicated to food and science (maids a milking?). There's even an activity to do at home on Christmas Day! No calling birds or French hens but plenty of time to make your own holiday fun during the 12 Days of Science. Click [here](#) to learn more about the 12 Days.



News from Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts

CCTA's [Spring Registration](#) is now OPEN! Plan ahead for warmer weather and sign up today. Tots on Broadway, Kids on Broadway and Bright Lights on Broadway are all back this spring. Classes begin on February 21, 2015.

CCTA's Performance Workshop is also back this winter/spring beginning January 10th! This workshop will be performing Grease this season, so [sign up](#) before we fill up!

CCTA's resident dialect coach is back for one night only! On December 18 from 7:00 - 9:00p.m., they are offering a dialect workshop to students grades 5-12. Call 410-381-0700 to register.

Community Events & Reminders

Lisbon Christmas Horse Parade

Main Street (Route 144) will be filled with holiday excitement on Saturday, December 13 beginning at 11:00 a.m. with the arrival of an array of horses, carriages, wagons and of course, a visit by Santa! Event sponsors ask attendees to bring non-perishable food items to benefit the Howard County and Carroll County Food Banks. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Baltimore Chanukah Festival

Celebrate the first night of Chanukah (Tuesday, December 16) with the Grand Menorah Lighting Ceremony at McKeldin Square, Inner Harbor beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Festival features a parade and ice skating. Click [here](#) for more information.

21st Annual Symphony of Lights

Howard County General Hospital Foundation's 21st Annual Symphony of Lights is now open! Visit the event [webpage](#) for all the details.

The Gift of Serving Others

Give unique gifts and give back to the community with the [Holiday Guide to Giving 2014](#). Featuring the holiday needs of 30+ local nonprofit agencies, check the guide to see what is on the wish lists and plan your collection. Opportunities range from raking leaves, wrapping presents, delivering meals and holiday visits to donating food, gifts, clothing and gift cards. Would you like a pdf version to share? Visit the [Volunteer Center's website](#) and click on the link.

Holiday Activities

Howard County Tourism and Promotion has created a list of fun, holiday-themed activities. Visit their [website](#) to find social, and recreational happenings, ideas for the perfect holiday decorations (including fresh Christmas trees) and of course, shopping locations for that perfect gift.

Trash & Recycling Collection - Landfill Schedule

Howard County Government will utilize the trash and recycling slide schedule for the Christmas and New Year's holiday. Visit the [website](#) for more information.



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